

Ss. ANTHONY OF PADUA & FRANCIS

Parish Priest: FR. DAVID SMITH (Direct No: 0191 2623882)

St. Anthony of Padua Parish Tele. No: 0191 2623817

(the answerphone will give information about contacting the Parish Secretary if required.) Parish Office Hours: Wed & Thurs 9am-2pm and Friday 9am-3pm

Parish Email Address: Newcastle.stanthony@rcdhn.org.uk

Parish Website Address: stanthonystfrancis.org.uk (with links to YouTube Channel and streamed Mass.)

Newcastle Hospital Chaplain:

Fr. Mariadass, Tele: 0191 2733903

Sunday 24th January 2021:
3rd Sunday Ordinary Time
Year B

STAY HOME SAVE LIVES

NATIONAL LOCKDOWN: CLOSURE OF CHURCHES

In light of the current, serious and worsening situation of the Coronavirus, the Government's advice to all people is very clear – 'STAY AT HOME' and limit our contact with other households. This is reiterated by Scientists and Directors of Public Health across the country. I've come to a difficult and painful decision that the Churches will be closed – except for Funerals – until the current national restrictions are lifted. Should the situation regarding funerals change I will liaise with families of the deceased. The warnings about the highly contagious nature of the new strain of Covid-19 are quite stark. Medical Officers and Public Health Directors have spoken of how this situation is going to worsen over the coming weeks and that as many people as possible must stay at home this time. On March 2020, our Churches were closed when the first national lockdown was announced. The situation with the new virus and variant strain is worse now than it was at the very beginning. While Churches in England may remain open for public Mass and other Services it's not acceptable to ask volunteer stewards, cleaners and others taking part in Mass to risk their health or be the potential cause of others being infected. We also have a moral duty not to be anything that would endanger the staff in our hospitals and the limited facilities of the NHS. As the clear message from health officials is that this already a dangerous situation and is going to get worse over the coming weeks, there is no alternative but to close the Churches immediately. This situation will be reviewed on a regular basis but I expect this closure to be in effect until the national lockdown restrictions are lifted. **Thank you all so much and stay safe, God Bless, Fr. David Smith.**

DAY	SERVICES & INTENTIONS AVAILABLE NEXT WEEK VIA 'YOU TUBE'
Sunday 24 January	10am Sunday Morning Mass – Will be available on YouTube
Monday 25 January	No Services
Tuesday 26 January	7pm Tuesday Evening Mass will be available on YouTube
Wednesday 27 January	10am Mass will be available on YouTube. Mass for: DORIS CLAPSHOE
Thursday 28 January	10.00am Mass will be available on YouTube.
Friday 29 January	10am Mass will be available on YouTube. Mass for: MARY CAMPBELL 4pm VIRTUAL ROSARY will be available on FACEBOOK
Saturday 30 January	No Services
Sunday 31 January	10am Sunday Morning Mass – Will be available on YouTube

INSTRUCTIONS TO FOLLOW OUR PARISHES' MASSES STREAMED ON 'YOU TUBE':



To access – choose 'YouTube' site on your browser and in YouTube search for 'St Anthony and St. Columba RC Churches' once on the site you will be able to subscribe (free of charge) to alerts whenever anything is posted on this site. You can also access the Masses via our Website 'stanthonystfrancis.org.uk'

Please keep an eye on our Website & Newsletters for regular updates.

MASS INTENTIONS: As you know all Masses for the time being are being celebrated at St. Columba's (see information above.) Should you wish to have a Mass offered for an anniversary, or other intention, please contact the St. Anthony's Parish Office 0191 2623817 as usual. Or you can post your request and offering in an envelope through the Presbytery Door. We will always try to ensure your Mass is celebrated on the day of your choice but occasionally it will be celebrated as close to that date as possible. Thank you.



Virtual Rosary:
The Rosary will be live streamed on Friday at 4pm via FACEBOOK.



Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus,
I believe that You are present
in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love You above all things,
and I desire to receive You into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment
receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace You as if You were
already there and unite myself
wholly to You. Never permit me
to be separated from You.

Amen.

Whilst we can't make it to daily Mass we can still make an **Act of Spiritual Communion (left.)** This involves expressing our faith in Jesus and in His Presence in the Eucharist and asking Him to unite Himself with us.

Basically the Act of Spiritual Communion is an Act of Faith, an Act of Love, a desire to receive Christ, and an invitation to Him to come into our hearts. St. Teresa of Jesus wrote: 'When you do not receive Communion and you do not attend Mass, you can make a spiritual Communion, which is a most beneficial practice; by it, the love of God will be greatly impressed on you.' Here is a prayer for those times we would like to make a spiritual Communion:

Please pray for all our sick:

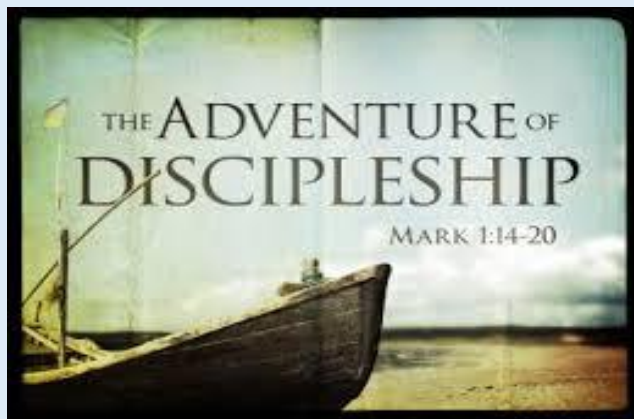
Rhoda Robertson, John Gourley, Doreen Graham, June Stephenson, Margaret O'Brien, Dorothy Milor, Elaine Clayton, Rosemary McIlvenna, Monica McKinnon, Martin Finchen, Allison Maghie, Gail McDonnell, Aileen, Sam Lee, Peter Graham and Nicola Campbell.

We remember all of our Children who need our prayers, including:

Joseph Relph, Josh Graham, James Taylor, Theo James Abbott and Martha

Can we also remember in prayer: Our NHS & frontline workers, our own St. Anthony of Padua Carers, all our Priests, Deacons and other Clergy ministering to the sick. Also for all those preparing and administering vaccines

Some thoughts on today's scripture



- If you google 'Executive recruitment' on the Web, you are asked to examine CVs (or resumé as they are sometimes called), which list the qualifications and experience of candidates. Then you are urged to hire expert recruiters to interview on your behalf. Jesus by contrast moves along the lakeshore, meets dozens of fishermen, and finally picks Simon, Andrew, James and John. He calls them to a global mission. They have no relevant experience and no training for the job. They are ordinary workers, good men. Their CV would be telegraphic: 'I grew up here. I fish.'
- Jesus' call is simple: "Follow me". Today his followers form the largest body of believers on the planet. Let us never lose a sense of how extraordinary this moment is.



**VATICAN
NEWS**

Pope Francis on CHRISTIAN UNITY

Jesus invites us to abide in Him so as to bear much fruit (see Jn 15:5-9). Abiding in the Lord means finding the courage to step outside of ourselves to take care of others' needs and give a Christian witness in the world.

#Prayer #UnityOfChristians or go to www.vaticannews.va



Can we once again remember in our prayers **Joanne Gosling** (a teacher of St. Alban's) and her 2 daughters **Emma & Hannah**, whose husband and dad (**Phil**) was laid to rest this week. We pray that they experience the Lord's comfort and strength at this very sad time..



Racial Justice Sunday 2021

This year's Racial Justice Sunday, 31 January and is more important than ever. The effects of the Coronavirus pandemic, the killing of George Floyd, and the powerful message on fraternity and equality by Pope Francis in [Fratelli Tutti](#) speak of the need to actively oppose racism and pursue racial justice with renewed vigour. (See page 3 for Diocesan link to an ebook summary of Pope's Fratelli Tutti Doc)



Holocaust Memorial Day 2021:
Be the light in the darkness



Monday 25 January 2021

HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL EVENING

"Be a Light in the Darkness"

To commemorate the 76th anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz Camp. Due to Covid restrictions the Department for Interreligious Religious Relations are unable to hold their annual commemoration at 2 Diocesan Schools, including St. Mary's Benton. Both schools, however, have combined to produce a joint event which is going to be available to view via the Diocesan Web Page.

Further details on www.rcdhn.org.uk

It includes a testimony given by Anita Lasker Wallfisch (a survivor of the infamous Auschwitz Orchestra.) Contributions also from the United Hebrew Congregations synagogue in Newcastle. Also Anita's grandson Sim (a renowned Cellist) and Bishop Robert and Rabbi Aaron.

WALKER FOODBANK & 'WALKING WITH' FOODBANK

Many people will continue to face hardship and financial difficulties. Sadly, as a result of the pandemic foodbanks up and down the country have reported, in many cases, a 250% increase in the uptake of their services. Many families through no fault of their own have struggled to put food on their tables, due to being furloughed – trying to exist on 80% of their salary - or losing their jobs in this pandemic. Charities helping refugees, asylum seekers and those without status are also in need of our support. If you are in a position to be able to give just one or two food items next week then we, as a parish, can help in a very practical way. Examples to include dried food, rice, pasta, sugar, tinned foods and toiletries.

DURING THIS CURRENT LOCKDOWN, if you are able to help with donations, you can either drop them off to St. Columba's Presbytery, Wallsend, or St. Anthony's can organise for them to be collected, if you call St. Anthony's Parish Office 0191 2623817. Thank you



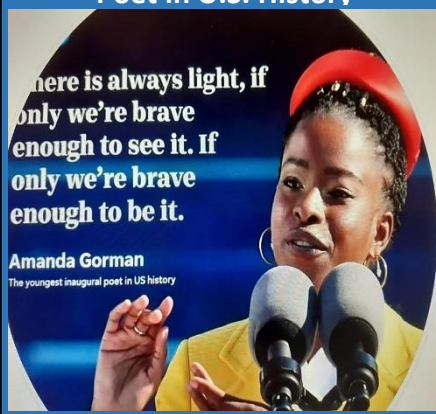
Lent



FOR DIARY: Lent this year begins on ASH WEDNESDAY (Wednesday 17th February 2021)



Amanda Gorman Is the youngest 'inaugural' Poet in U.S. History



FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO PARISH DURING 3rd LOCKDOWN:

To set up a regular **STANDING ORDER** or make a one off donation. Please print the 'Standing Order Mandate Form' found on our Website and pass on to your own Bank.

If you have personal **ONLINE BANKING** you will be able to set this up yourself, you will need the following information. (Please also be assured that all bank payments are accounted for in our Parish Audit Trails.)

Account Name: "DHN Newcastle Ss. Anthony of Padua & Francis A Registered Charity"

Bank: HSBC (Sort Code: 40.34.45) and Account No. 61165089

'GIFT AIDING' for the first time and are a UK Taxpayer? You will need to download the 'Gift Aid Form 2020-2021' which can be found on our Website. Please complete and send it back to the Parish Office. This is a legal document required by HMRC, the Office is required to forward it the Diocese. **Please be assured that in completing this form means that the Parish will receive a small percentage back from HMRC and will NOT affect your own tax.**

YOU CAN (as previous lockdowns) HOLD ONTO YOUR WEEKLY OFFERING UNTIL WE RESUME OUR MASSES, thank you.

Diocesan Dept. for Education: POPE FRANCIS 3RD ENCYCLICAL LETTER "Tutti Fratelli" Click on red links for more information:

On the feast of St. Francis of Assisi, Pope Francis, released the third encyclical letter of his papacy with the title Fratelli Tutti, on fraternity and social friendship. As with Laudato Si', the title is an Italian quotation from St. Francis, **translated as "brothers and sisters all."**

This [short e-book guide](#) introduces the themes of the document and offers links to some other resources. You can also [read more](#) about the encyclical on the Vatican's own website. There is a short examen prayer to accompany the resource. You can watch the video through our

[YouTube Channel](#)

Keep in touch



Website

Our Website address:

stanthonystfrancis.org



YouTube

You Tube Channel

St. Anthony's & St. Columba's

(You can access the Channel by going to our Parish Website, following the link which takes you to our 'You Tube Channel.' Here you will find recorded Masses and Services.)

Email Newsletter:



If you'd like to receive an electronic copy of the weekly Parish newsletter then please contact the Parish email address as follows:

newcastle.stanthonystfrancis@rcdhn.org.uk

Fr. David

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Parish Office

0191 2623817

(answerphone)

